## Amendments to the Specificati n:

Please insert the following as the first paragraph beneath the title on page 1:

This application is a continuation of U.S. Patent Application No.09/693,011, filed October 20, 2000, which in its entirety is herein incorporated by reference.

Should the Examiner have any questions, please contact the undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted.

Novartis Corporate Intellectual Property One Health Plaza, Building 430 East Hanover, NJ 07936-1080 (862) 778-7909

Date: July 16, 2003

Thomas R. Savitsky Attorney for Applicants